



Log # 2019-2864

FINAL SUMMARY REPORT¹

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On July 26, 2019, the Civilian Office of Police Accountability (COPA) received a telephone complaint from [REDACTED] (" [REDACTED] reporting alleged misconduct. COPA received an Initiation Report on the same day concerning a member of the Chicago Police Department (CPD).² The telephone complaint and Initiation Report alleged that on July 26, 2019, Officer Kamal Judeh violated a parenting time court order between himself and [REDACTED]. Upon review of the evidence, COPA served allegations that Officer Judeh violated the order. Following its investigation, COPA reached a sustained finding regarding the violation of the parenting time order. COPA found insufficient evidence to sustain allegations of Officer Judeh grabbing [REDACTED] without justification and attempting to intimidate [REDACTED] saying words to the effect of "what do you think the police are going to do to you?"

II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE³

On February 6, 2018, [REDACTED] filed a petition to dissolve her marriage with her husband, Officer Judeh. [REDACTED] and Officer Judeh have [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. On July 15, 2019, the court entered an order regarding temporary parenting time with [REDACTED] [REDACTED].⁴ Specifically, the order allocated parenting time with Officer Judeh from July 23, 2019 at 9:00am to July 25, 2019 at 7:30pm.

[REDACTED] and Officer Judeh communicate via Talking Parents.⁵ On July 25, 2019, [REDACTED] reached out to Officer Judeh via Talking Parents to pick up the minor children.⁶ On July 26, 2019, July 27, 2019, and July 28, 2019, [REDACTED] reached out to Officer Judeh on Talking Parents to pick up the minor children with negative results.⁷ On August 2, 2019, [REDACTED] reached out to Officer

¹ Appendix A includes case identifiers such as the date, time, and location of the incident, the involved parties and their demographics, and the applicable rules and policies.

² Att. 25.

³ The following is a summary of what COPA finds most likely occurred during this incident. This summary utilized information from several different sources, including BWC footage, Event Query, police reports, and statements to COPA by [REDACTED] and Officer Judeh.

⁴ Att. 27.

⁵ Talking Parents is a co-parenting communication application made to help parents coordinate child custody matters through a shared calendar and messages.

⁶ Att. 32, page 6.

⁷ Att. 32, page 7.

Judeh on Talking Parents to pick up the minor children with negative results.⁸ On August 10, 2019, [REDACTED] reached out to Officer Judeh on Talking Parents to pick up the minor children with negative results.⁹

On August 13, 2019, [REDACTED] filed an emergency petition for immediate turnover of the minor children and for make-up parenting time.¹⁰ In his response, Officer Judeh admitted that he violated the order regarding parenting time.¹¹ That response stated that Officer Judeh and the minor children were not present at the residence on July 25, 2019, at the time the court order mandated the children be turned over. The response also stated that the boys were not returned on August 2, 2019, because they were visiting with their grandfather. On August 15, 2019, the Court suspended Officer Judeh's parenting time and ordered the minor children returned to their mother.¹²

[REDACTED] stated in an interview with COPA that in November 2019, Officer Judeh followed her to her car in the parking lot of [REDACTED], berated her, intimidated her, attempted to grab her, and attempted to prevent her from getting in her car and leaving.¹³ In his interview with COPA, Officer Judeh denied all the misconduct [REDACTED] alleged, but did admit that a conversation took place between him and [REDACTED] in the parking lot. Officer Judeh did not recall details about the violation of the court order in July-August 2019.¹⁴

III. ALLEGATIONS

Officer Judeh:

1. From July 25, 2019 until August 15, 2019 Officer Kamal Judeh committed misconduct through the following acts and/or omissions: Failure to return [REDACTED] to her custody without legal justification.

-- **Sustained**, Violation of Rules 2 and 8.

2. In November 2019 at or near [REDACTED] located at [REDACTED] Palos Heights, IL Officer Kamal Judeh committed misconduct through the following acts or omissions: Grabbing [REDACTED] without justification.

-- **Not Sustained**.

3. In November 2019 at or near [REDACTED] located at [REDACTED], [REDACTED] Officer Kamal Judeh committed misconduct through the following acts or

⁸ Att. 32, page 7-8.

⁹ Att. 32, page 8.

¹⁰ Att. 8.

¹¹ Att. 7 Response to Petitioner's Emergency Motion for Rule to Show Cause, page 5.

¹² Att. 13 Emergency Rule to Show Cause Court Order. Another order entered on October 22, 2019, restored Officer Judeh's rights with the condition that he return the children to their mother more than 15 minutes late without contacting her.

¹³ Att. 26.

¹⁴ Att. 31.

omissions: Attempting to intimidate ██████████ saying words to the effect of “what do you think the police are going to do to you?”

-- **Not Sustained.**

IV. CREDIBILITY ASSESSMENT

This investigation did not reveal any reason to question the credibility of the violation of the court order. COPA acknowledges that Officer Judeh’s lack of recollection in his statement to COPA was the result of providing that statement several years after the events at issue. COPA thus lacks reason to doubt the credibility of either party.

V. ANALYSIS¹⁵

COPA finds Allegation #1 against Officer Judeh to be **sustained** by the evidence. There was a court order entered which stipulated parenting time with the minor children. COPA looks to the content of the July 15, 2019, and August 15, 2019, orders to determine that Officer Judeh failed to provide the minor children to ██████████ as ordered on July 25, 2019. Additionally, Officer Judeh failed to provide the minor children to ██████████ on subsequent scheduled visits (August 2, 2019, and August 10, 2019). ██████████ requested an emergency petition to have the minor children returned to her care. The court suspended Officer Judeh’s parenting time on August 15, 2019, and on October 22, 2019, conditioned Officer Judeh’s parenting time upon strict compliance with the parenting schedule. COPA thus finds by a preponderance of the evidence that Officer Judeh violated the parenting time court order.

COPA finds Allegations #2 and #3 against Officer Judeh to be **not sustained** by the evidence. ██████████ and Officer Judeh both admit that a conversation took place between them in November 2019 at ██████████, but they each characterize their conduct differently. COPA finds both parties credible. Without additional evidence to corroborate either account, COPA is unable to find that the alleged misconduct occurred by a preponderance of the evidence.

VI. DISCIPLINARY RECOMMENDATION

a. Officer Kamal Judeh

i. Complimentary and Disciplinary History¹⁶

Since he joined CPD on August 5, 1996, Officer Judeh received 245 awards, including 191 honorable mentions, 11 complimentary letters, 1 life saving award, and 1 police officer of the month award. He has no disciplinary history.

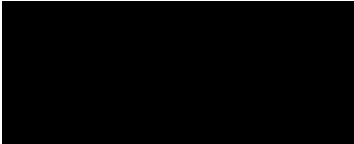
¹⁵ For a definition of COPA’s findings and standards of proof, *see* Appendix B.

¹⁶ Att. 35.

ii. Recommended Discipline

Here, COPA has found Officer Judeh violated Rules 2 and 8 by violating a court order setting out a parenting schedule with [REDACTED]. His failure to follow the order deprived [REDACTED] of her time with their children for over two weeks. Based on this information, COPA recommends a suspension of up to 30 days.

Approved:



March 18, 2024

Shannon Hayes
Director of Investigations

Date

Appendix A

Case Details

Date/Time/Location of Incident:	July 25, 2019/ 7:30 pm / 6608 W. 63 rd Str., Chicago, IL 60638
Date/Time of COPA Notification:	July 26, 2019 / 4:49 pm.
Involved Member #1:	Officer Kamal Judeh / Star #8825 / Employee ID # [REDACTED] / DOA: August 5, 1996 / Unit: 227 / Male / White
Involved Individual #1:	[REDACTED] Female, White

Applicable Rules

- Rule 2:** Any action or conduct which impedes the Department’s efforts to achieve its policy and goals or brings discredit upon the Department.
- Rule 3:** Any failure to promote the Department's efforts to implement its policy or accomplish its goals.
- Rule 5:** Failure to perform any duty.
- Rule 6:** Disobedience of an order or directive, whether written or oral.
- Rule 8:** Disrespect to or maltreatment of any person, while on or off duty.
- Rule 9:** Engaging in any unjustified verbal or physical altercation with any person, while on or off duty.
- Rule 10:** Inattention to duty.
- Rule 14:** Making a false report, written or oral.
- Rule 38:** Unlawful or unnecessary use or display of a weapon.
- Rule __:** *[Insert text of any additional rule(s) violated]*

Applicable Policies and Laws

- **General Order G01-01:** Vision, Mission Statement, and Core Values.

Appendix B

Definition of COPA's Findings and Standards of Proof

For each Allegation, COPA must make one of the following findings:

1. Sustained – where it is determined the allegation is supported by a preponderance of the evidence;
2. Not Sustained – where it is determined there is insufficient evidence to prove the allegations by a preponderance of the evidence;
3. Unfounded – where it is determined by clear and convincing evidence that an allegation is false or not factual; or
4. Exonerated – where it is determined by clear and convincing evidence that the conduct described in the allegation occurred, but it is lawful and proper.

A **preponderance of evidence** can be described as evidence indicating that it is **more likely than not** that a proposition is proved.¹⁷ For example, if the evidence gathered in an investigation establishes that it is more likely that the conduct complied with CPD policy than that it did not, even if by a narrow margin, then the preponderance of the evidence standard is met.

Clear and convincing evidence is a higher standard than a preponderance of the evidence but lower than the “beyond-a-reasonable doubt” standard required to convict a person of a criminal offense. Clear and convincing can be defined as a “degree of proof, which, considering all the evidence in the case, produces the firm and abiding belief that it is highly probable that the proposition . . . is true.”¹⁸

¹⁷ See *Avery v. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Co.*, 216 Ill. 2d 100, 191 (2005) (a proposition is proved by a preponderance of the evidence when it is found to be more probably true than not).

¹⁸ *People v. Coan*, 2016 IL App (2d) 151036, ¶ 28 (quoting Illinois Pattern Jury Instructions, Criminal, No. 4.19 (4th ed. 2000)).

Appendix C

Transparency and Publication Categories

Check all that apply:

- Abuse of Authority
- Body Worn Camera Violation
- Coercion
- Death or Serious Bodily Injury in Custody
- Domestic Violence
- Excessive Force
- Failure to Report Misconduct
- False Statement
- Firearm Discharge
- Firearm Discharge – Animal
- Firearm Discharge – Suicide
- Firearm Discharge – Unintentional
- First Amendment
- Improper Search and Seizure – Fourth Amendment Violation
- Incidents in Lockup
- Motor Vehicle Incidents
- OC Spray Discharge
- Search Warrants
- Sexual Misconduct
- Taser Discharge
- Unlawful Denial of Access to Counsel
- Unnecessary Display of a Weapon
- Use of Deadly Force – other
- Verbal Abuse
- Other Investigation